

God bless the people of this colony who are so kind as to give me the opportunity of doing this work. I am sure that the people of this colony will be very kind to give me the opportunity of doing this work.

THE "MERCURY" AND "TASMANIAN MAIL" OFFICE.
St. John Street, Launceston.

GR. EDWARDS,
AGENT.

April 16th 1885

I received your letter yesterday and very much regret that I cannot give you the reply that you might expect from me also. But the interest of your cause at heart. Until the last fortnight during which I have been very busy for the Mercury. I devoted a good deal of time to the work of endeavouring to start a Land Society to the West of Hobart in Launceston. I have not met with sufficient encouragement to induce me to continue. I am Robinson and

I am Sutton the first two sympathizers
I obtained were about the only
two who really meant work. I
called on Mr Ritchie of Ritchie & Parker
but after a long talk he told me that
he was forced to give up all outside
work as his health was hardly good
enough to enable him to attend
properly to his business. Moreover
he was not in sympathy with the
Scheme. He is not a manhood
suffrage advocate much to my
surprise and on the other hand he
has a idea that the payment
of members in which he is a lesser
believer is a more important
question. He does not see any
necessity either for increasing the
number of members. Among others
I called upon was Alderman Tardley
who would go I believe if he found

the Company good enough but would
hang fire till then. Many others
were of opinion that such a thing
would not have any chance of
success in Lancashire as the people
were not politically alive. They
got up a temporary interest in
the party politics that are stirred
during an electoral contest but
have no interest in political principles
apart from an election. There is
some truth in this but it applies
almost as strongly to Bristol.
If we could make a start something
might be done but the difficulty
is the start for a good start would
attract a great many more who
like to be in a successful movement
but dread a self-born flaccid
society that would meet with nothing
but ridicule. I have consulted
McKellams but he does not appear to
be able to help it forward though

he says he is nothing
I was at Longford last week and
saw friends during Golden Week
Others. He has done me
remember him to you and
that I heard him make a good
radical speech. Longford does not
look so pretty as when you and
I were there five years ago. I think
I should like to go there again
at that period of the year and take
my wife there. I hope to have one
at that time.

Shirley can tell you a month
ago but have not heard from him
and he left. I have something
of note to tell you and heard of him
I had a good holiday for five
days among the Cuckoo Mountains
to Mercant but the day was not
when it was over and I was able
to get a belt against the
rather large and secret one.
Remembers me to the boys (W.P. & S.D.)

[illegible]

